

REMARKS

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 18, 26, 27, 28 and 29 are canceled herein.

The remaining claims are amended herein. Support for the amendments is found, for example, in FIGS. 1 and 2, and the disclosure in paragraphs [0040] through [0051], of the specification.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-17 and 19-25 are currently pending.

II. OBJECTION TO CLAIMS 23

Claim 23 is amended to overcome the objection.

III. REJECTION OF CLAIM 9 UNDER 35 USC 112, SECOND PARAGRAPH

Claim 9 is amended to overcome the objection.

IV. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1, 4-6, 8, 10, 11, 14-16, 18, 20-23 AND 26-29 UNDER 35 USC 102(E) AS BEING ANTICIPATED BY FENGER

Independent claim 1 is amended to recite a system comprising (a) a network element; (b) a gateway managing the network element and receiving fault alarm incidents from the network element; (c) distributed management servers; and (d) policy objects distributed across the distributed management servers so that each policy object resides on, and is executable by, a respective distributed management server. As recited, for example, in the amended claim 1, each policy object defines fault management behavior for managing the network element by the gateway. As recited, for example, in the amended claim 1, a respective policy object is executed by the distributed management server on which the policy object resides in response to a respective fault alarm incident received by the gateway and associated with the policy object, to thereby implement the fault management behavior defined by the respective policy object in response to the respective fault alarm incident.

Please note that the other independent claims are amended in a somewhat similar manner. Support for the amendments is found, for example, in FIGS. 1 and 2, and the disclosure in paragraphs [0040] through [0051], of the specification.

Fenger relates to the distribution of policy information by policy servers to other network components.

However, Fenger does not disclose or suggest the specific distribution of the specific

type of policy objects in a specific configuration as recited, for example, in claim 1.

Moreover, Fenger does not relate to fault management. Please note that claim 1 specifically recites that each policy object defines fault management behavior for managing the network element by the gateway, and that a respective policy object is executed by the distributed management server on which the policy object resides in response to a respective fault alarm incident received by the gateway and associated with the policy object.

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Although the above comments are specifically directed to claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that the comments would be helpful in understanding various differences of various other claims over Fenger.

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Please note that claim 2 specifically recites a decision object stored in the gateway, the decision object defining decision behavior for routing fault alarm incidents received by the gateway from the network element to an appropriate distributed management server for execution of a policy object residing on said appropriate distributed management server. See also claims 12 and 21. Fenger does not relate to routing fault alarm incidents.

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Please note that claims 20 specifically recites software objects distributed across distributed management servers, and that a respective software object is executed by the distributed management server on which the respective software object resides in response to a respective fault alarm incident received by a respective gateway and associated with the software object. It is respectfully submitted that Fenger does not disclose such features.

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In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection is overcome.

V. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 2, 3, 7, 12, 13, 17 AND 25 UNDER 35 USC 103
AS BEING UNPATENTABLE OVER FENGER IN VIEW OF TENTIJ

The above comments for distinguishing over Fenger also apply here.

Tantij does not disclose policy objects distributed across distributed management servers as recited, for example, in independent claims 1 and 11.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection is overcome.

VI. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 9, 19 AND 24 UNDER 35 USC 103
AS BEING UNPATENTABLE OVER FENGER IN VIEW OF KEKIC

The above comments for distinguishing over Fenger also apply here.

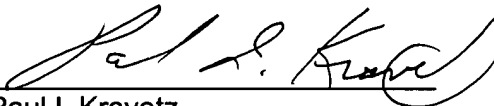
In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection is overcome.

VII. CONCLUSION

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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